

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

AMERICAN LONGSHOREMAN JOBS

HON. LINDA SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mrs. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I take the well of the House today to talk about American longshoreman jobs that are being needlessly lost. The Secretary of State is charged with compiling a list of countries who reciprocate with the United States in allowing their longshoremen work while in a host port. That list is fatally flawed.

The Government Accounting Office [GAO] has been very critical of the Secretary of State for the manner in which the State Department compiled its reciprocity list. A better analysis of the situation and the rendering of a new list, as required by law, would keep potentially large numbers of American longshoremen jobs from being lost. Currently, the work product of the Secretary of State has led to opportunities for crew members aboard foreign commercial vessels to perform longshore work in American waters. The potentially high job losses caused by the Department of State's misinterpretation of Congress' intent to protect American longshore jobs could be disastrous for our workers.

According to my esteemed colleague, the senior Senator from Washington State, SLADE GORTON, the Department of State's misinterpretation of the reciprocity law "may open the door to allowing more foreign crewmen to perform longshore work in the U.S." I agree with Senator GORTON. Now is not the time to allow more American jobs to flow overseas, certainly not at the hand of our own State Department and certainly not contrary to the intent of Congress.

Now is the time for the Secretary of State to revisit the reciprocity issue and consider the GAO's recommendation to evaluate industry practices and collective bargaining agreements which reserve longshore work exclusively for foreign crews. Starting in the 1980's, foreign ship owners began to tie up their ships and load logs using their own crews. Before the 1980's, this work had always been reserved for American longshoremen. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit upheld the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union position that this practice violated several Immigration and Naturalization Service [INS] regulations. Still, this practice goes unchecked by our State Department despite the intent of Congress to rectify this situation.

Mr. Speaker, we don't need another legislative answer to this problem. Congress has already addressed this issue by passing bipartisan amendments to the Immigration and Naturalization Act which affirmed the rights of American waterfront workers. What we need today is action by the Secretary of State in reviewing the list of countries who grant reciprocity to American longshoremen and publish a new list which is fair to the American worker.

I ask all my colleagues who value the sanctity and preservation of American jobs to urge the Secretary of State to review the reciprocity list and preserve the intent of Congress to keep American jobs from needlessly being lost to foreign crew members.

FAIR TAX TREATMENT FOR HARD APPLE CIDER

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, today Congressmen ENGLISH, HOUGHTON, and I are introducing legislation that will provide fair tax treatment for hard apple cider. The purpose of this legislation is to clarify the tax treatment of draft cider.

Under current law, draft apple cider is taxed at a much higher rate than beer despite the fact the two beverages have a similar alcohol level. Hard apple cider is taxed as wine and is subject to a tax of \$1.07 per wine gallon. Whereas, beer is subject to a tax of 22.6 cents per gallon.

Hard apple cider has an alcohol level below 7 percent and this is much lower than the alcohol level of beer. Also, beer and hard apple cider are packaged and marketed in a similar fashion. Hard apple cider is becoming a popular alternative to beer.

This legislation will tax apple cider at the same rate as beer. The Joint Committee on Taxation has estimated this legislation would cost \$5 million over 5 years. This small tax change would allow hard apple cider producers to compete fairly with beer. The current tax prohibits many apple growers from producing cider. Apple growers and producers in our districts would prosper because hard apple cider is made from culled apples, the least marketable apples.

Senator LEAHY is introducing companion legislation. I urge you to cosponsor this legislation which will provide equity to the draft cider industry.

SHRINERS HOSPITALS HONORED WITH PRESTIGIOUS NOVA AWARD

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children have always been recognized for the quality medical care they deliver in their 22 orthopaedic and burn hospitals located throughout North America. Recently, I was pleased to learn that the Shriners Hospitals have been honored for their latest initiative as the 1995 recipient of the prestigious NOVA Award sponsored by the American Hospital Association.

Since being founded almost 75 years ago, the Shriners Hospitals have been providing completely free care to their young patients without any Government payments, any insurance payments or payments from any third party. All expenses are covered through the generosity of the American people.

The Shriners Hospitals have received the 1995 NOVA Award for their innovative CHOICES program. CHOICES is the acronym for Children's Health Care Options Improved through Collaborative Efforts and Services, and it represents a new era of public-private partnership in the delivery of health care services.

Launched in 1988 at the Shriners Hospital in Lexington, KY, in collaboration with the Kentucky Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs, the CHOICES program coordinates the care of special needs children to avoid duplication of services for some and lack of care for others.

CHOICES helps to fill this gap in services through facilitated referrals and coordinated care between the Shriners Hospitals and community-based government providers. At the conclusion of CHOICES' Phase I, 4 Shriners Hospitals and 10 State programs were participating in the partnership. Phase II will involve six more Shriners Hospitals and the States that they serve.

The CHOICES program stands as an example of the type of creative, comprehensive response we need to meet the challenges of health care delivery for the 21st century. I am proud to congratulate the Shriners Hospitals for their forward looking approach and for their seven decades of commitment to the special children they serve.

TRIBUTE TO EDWIN L. ZEHNDER

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor a man who has devoted much of his life to helping and brightening the lives of others. On July 25, Mr. Edwin Zehnder will celebrate his 75th birthday. On this historic day, citizens of Frankenmuth will also celebrate the vast contributions which Edwin has made to his community.

Since 1965, Edwin and his wife, Marion, have been the proprietors of Zehnder's of Frankenmuth restaurant, one of the most famous and top 10 independent restaurants in total sales in the United States. Throughout the century, the Zehnder family has maintained its commitment to friendly service and the best oven-roasted chicken in Michigan.

In the three decades that Edwin has run Zehnder's, he has taken the Michigan landmark created by his father, William, and expanded it into the largest tourist location in Michigan's historic Frankenmuth. The 84,000-square-foot restaurant now accompanies a retail gift store, a retail food store, and a bakery.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Vacationers from around the country have stopped at world-famous Zehnder's for a sample of the outstanding cuisine and festive atmosphere.

Edwin's commitment to community service does not stop at the doors of his Frankenmuth restaurant. Edwin and Marion have remained active in their community and their church for years. As owner of one of the greatest tourist spots in Michigan, Edwin has spent his career making contributions to the State's hospitality-tourism industry.

Mr. Speaker, Edwin's dedication to his community, his family, and his business have served over the years as an inspiration to all who know him. I know you will join my colleagues and I in wishing Mr. Edwin Zehnder a happy and healthy 75th birthday. May his future be marked with continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL SERVICE PRIORITY PLACEMENT PROGRAM ACT OF 1995

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Federal Service Priority Placement Act of 1995. This bill directs the Office of Personnel Management [OPM] to establish a governmentwide interagency placement program for Federal employees affected by reductions-in-force [RIFs]. I believe that the immediate enactment of this legislation is essential to respond to the needs of employees who, through no fault of their own, will be adversely affected by the massive downsizing of the work force ordered in the Federal Workforce Restructuring Act of 1994 (P.L. 103-226) and increased under the recently passed budget resolution for fiscal year 1996. Recall that no plan or rationale that matched the number of employees to be eliminated with the administration's National Performance Review efficiency objectives was ever offered. Indeed, the number kept changing, going from initially 100,000, then to 272,900, and will undoubtedly go even higher under the new Congress, giving the downsizing the appearance of deficit reduction without efficiency goals. As such, RIF's may well be inevitable in the future, notwithstanding the widespread use of buyouts by Federal agencies.

The purpose of the legislation is to ensure that the Federal Government selects its own displaced employees over outside hires when filling vacant positions. RIF'ed employees are a valuable resource of dedicated civil servants in whom the Government has invested training and knowledge. It is in the Government's best interest to take advantage of the continued positive contribution these employees can make rather than to discard the Government's investment and start all over with new hires. We will not achieve a government that works better and costs less if the talents and energies the government has helped to produce are not rechanneled where they are needed in the government. The Federal Service Priority Placement Program Act of 1995 would facilitate the placement of RIF'ed employees at other agencies by requiring that those agencies with vacant positions within RIF'ed employees' commuting areas offer jobs to such qualified employees first.

Last fall OPM launched its new Interagency Placement Program [IPP], an initiative that combines the old Displaced Employee Program and the Interagency Placement Program. I believe that the new IPP is sure to be as ineffective as the two programs it replaced because OPM only refers registrants for vacancies to be filled by competitive appointment. Most important, agencies need only consider, and are not required to hire qualified OPM referrals. Agencies can avoid hiring the RIF'ed employee by simply filing an objection with OPM. In the context of the most extraordinary downsizing in the Federal Government's history, this hardly seems fair to qualified employees RIF'ed to satisfy an undocumented quota having nothing to do with their own qualifications or record of service.

A 1992 GAO study makes clear that a clear and direct statutory mandate that agencies give RIF'ed employees a mandatory hiring preference over outside job applicants is warranted. Otherwise, it is not at all clear that agencies will voluntarily give up their prerogative under the existing OPM placement program to reject displaced workers and hire whoever they want to fill vacant positions.

The President's National Partnership Council, a new Federal labor-management organization, has likewise recognized the need for the Federal Government, in the midst of such massive downsizing, to be more activist in trying to place displaced employees. In a July report, the Council advocated a governmentwide placement policy that gave displaced or RIF'ed employees priority over outside hires. Similarly, in an NPR draft report entitled the "Federal Human Resource Management Reinvention Act of 1995," the administration endorses requiring agencies to give their own displaced employees and displaced employees from other Federal agencies placement priority over new outside hires.

The Federal Service Priority Placement Act of 1995 protects the Federal Government's sizable investment in personnel training and education while accomplishing the goal of governmentwide downsizing in the most orderly and humane fashion.

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL ROCKETTES CELEBRATE 70TH BIRTHDAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 70th birthday of the Radio City Music Hall Rockettes. Over its 70 year existence, the Rockettes have contributed greatly to the richness of culture in New York City, the country at large, and throughout the world.

When formed in 1925, the Rockettes were first known as the Missouri Rockets, Russell Markert's Girls, or the Roxyettes. Since 1934, the now-famous dance troop changed its name to Radio City Music Hall Rockettes and has called New York its home ever since.

Through the Roaring Twenties and the Great Depression, two world wars, and through the social, economic, and political upheavals of the past four decades, the Rockettes have endured. For many people, the Rockettes have come to symbolize a part

of the American dream. Generations of young dancers from small towns to the largest cities have wanted to become a part of the Rockettes.

Moreover, the Rockettes have evolved into an American icon recognized throughout the world. At the invitation of the French Government, they represented the United States in the 1937 Paris Exposition Grand Prix and won. Since then, the Rockettes have entertained millions of people performing not only at Radio City, but also entertaining our military troops, visiting international dignitaries, and heads of state and U.S. Presidents. In addition, they have also performed for several benefit groups, including the Heart Association, International Human Rights, and the Peter Allen AIDS Foundation.

The Rockette Alumnae Association is a not-for-profit organization whose membership of over 400 former Rockettes represents the seven continuous decades of working American women who have shared in the history of this uniquely American institution. A special anniversary celebration sponsored by the alumnae is scheduled for August 5, 1995, at the Plaza Hotel in New York City. Funds raised in this event will be donated to the Juliard School of Music, where the school's first dance scholarship was established and endowed by the Rockette Alumnae in the name of its founder, Russell E. Markert.

Mr. Speaker, the Rockettes' contribution to the cultural history of America is as broad as the many women who have been with the dance troop, and the millions of people who have attended its shows. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the Radio City Music Hall Rockettes on their 70th birthday, and wish them success as they continue enriching our lives into the 21st century.

TRIBUTE TO HERMAN O. WILEY, M.D.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the late Herman O. Wiley, M.D., of Red Bank, NJ, who passed away last month.

Dr. Wiley was born on June 12, 1912, in the Bronx, NY, the only son of William and Ethel Wiley. He was educated in the public schools of New York and was a graduate of Virginia State University, where he met and married Maeble Harston Wiley, his devoted and loving wife of 60 years. He subsequently attended and graduated from Howard University Medical School. Dr. Wiley was a veteran of World War II, and served as a captain in the Medical Corps of the U.S. Army in Italy and North Africa.

A long-time resident of Red Bank, Dr. Wiley was elected to and served on the Red Bank Board of Education for 18 years. He was also active and held office in numerous civic and social organizations, and received many awards and commendations for his devoted service to his community. Among the awards were Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity's Regional Man of the Year award, a Distinguished Service award of the Red Bank NAACP and the Westside Ministerium, and an award as Man of the Year from the Kiwanis Club. He was a

charter member of Zeta Epsilon Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and a member and past president of the Red Bank Men's Club. He was also a member of the National Guardsmen, Inc., and a member of the H.M. Club of America. He was a member of the New Jersey Medical Association and the American Medical Association and was formerly affiliated, before his retirement in 1994, with Monmouth Medical Center, Long Branch, NJ, and Riverview Medical Center, Red Bank, NJ.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to pay tribute to Dr. Wiley, a patriot who served his country with distinction during a time of war, and then came home and continued to serve our society in many ways; as a physician, a leader in community affairs and as a devoted husband and father. He will be missed deeply by his family, friends, colleagues and by our entire community.

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT ON
R.S. 2477

HON. JAMES V. HANSEN

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation that would once and for all resolve the issue known as RS 2477 right-of-ways across Federal lands. RS 2477 right-of-ways provide the rural West access across the expanses of Federal lands in the West. For 110 years, counties, cities, States, and individuals were allowed to establish necessary right-of-ways across Federal lands to provide travel routes between towns, to schools and to homes. In 1976, Congress terminated this ability to establish new right-of-ways but failed to provide the mechanism to adjudicate the established routes. My legislation is a reasonable and efficient way to resolve the thousands of RS 2477 right-of-way claims that exist in the West.

In 1866, Congress promoted the settlement and use of western lands by enacting R.S. 2477, a self-executing, open-ended grant of right-of-ways across public lands. The grant acted as an offer. Where the public accepted the offer, property rights became vested in the holder. The rights were severed from the public domain and are entitled to the same protection as any other property that is not owned by the Federal Government.

RS 2477 simply states:

And be it further enacted, That the right of way for the construction of highways over public lands, not reserved for public uses, is hereby granted.

While the language of the grant and the legislative history accompanying the grant may be sparse, the purpose of the grant is not in doubt. As Senator Steward stated, "The mineral lands must remain open and free to exploration and development. * * * It would be a national calamity to adopt any system that would close that region to the prospector." The grant was a crucial element of Congress' scheme to settle the public lands of the West. Access rights were needed across the vast Federal domain to accommodate Congress' goals of economic progress in the West. RS 2477 helped achieve those goals.

In short, the West grew up around these right-of-ways. They made it possible for one

settlement to communicate and trade with another. They made it possible for citizens to legally traverse the broad expanse of public lands in order to interact with the rest of the forming Nation. It is no wonder, then, that courts have commented that revocation of RS 2477 rights would make Congress' original act "a delusion and a cruel and empty vision."

Secretary Babbitt currently has pending regulations that would lead to the closure of thousands of right-of-ways across the West that would cripple our ability to travel, engage in commerce, or access our property. My legislation will resolve these issues in a fair and equitable fashion. I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, due to the fact that I was unavoidably detained at a meeting and missed the rollcall on the Chenoweth amendment to the Treasury appropriations bill, had I been present for rollcall Vote No. 532, I would have voted "nay" against the proposal which sought to prohibit use of funds to provide bonuses or any other merit-based salary increase for any employee of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

RECOGNITION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HEBREW CONGREGATION LOCATED IN ST. THOMAS, VI

HON. VICTOR O. FRAZER

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. FRAZER. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the U.S. Virgin Islands, I would like to share with the Members of this body, and the people of this country, a distinction of which we are proud but a fact that is little known to most of our fellow Americans, namely that the Hebrew Congregation of St. Thomas, VI proudly boasts that it is the oldest synagogue building in continuous use under the American flag.

In 1976, a small Jewish community of St. Thomas founded the congregation and called it Blessing and Peace. Comprised of only nine families in 1801, the congregation increased to 22 with the arrival of Jewish settlers from England, France, St. Eustatius, and Curacao in 1803. In 1804, the small synagogue was destroyed by fire and was not replaced until 1812. This thriving congregation continued to grow, and in 1823 the building was dismantled and a larger one erected and renamed "Blessing and Peace and Loving Deeds," the Hebrew name it carries to this day. This structure was built in the city of Charlotte Amalie on one of the city's historical landmarks known as Synagogue Hill; it is here the current synagogue stands.

In 1831, the congregation, which by now numbered 64 families, witnessed a citywide fire which destroyed the synagogue. This dedicated and closely knit congregation rebuilt and

reconsecrated their synagogue in 1833. The entire island community, along with assistance from the worldwide Jewry, assisted in this noble undertaking. The lovely synagogue is still actively used today by over 200 families and is the only synagogue on the island of St. Thomas. Since the doors of the synagogue opened in 1833, there has always been a weekly Shabbat Service. Our synagogue also has the distinction of holding the first confirmation ceremony for Jewish youth ever in the Western Hemisphere. This monumental event took place on October 14, 1843.

In 1850, the congregation numbered between 400 and 500 members and the King of Denmark sanctioned and approved a constitution for the Kehilla community. This code of law governed the Jewish community, regulated its membership dues, and established its voting procedures with great precision. Members of the Jewish community held offices of trust and honor on St. Thomas. This period of Jewish activity on St. Thomas was significant and can only be equaled by the present day accomplishments.

Everything in the synagogue is original and dates back to 1833. The benches, the Ark, and the bima are all made of mahogany wood which flourished on the island, but were decimated through overuse by the lumber industry. The chandeliers are from Europe. The lamps are made of Baccarat crystal. The peripheral chandeliers have since been electrified, but the central ones are still lit by candles on important holidays. The walls are specially designed to be hurricane proof, as are the windows. They allow for the free passage of air while blunting the force. The stones are locally quarried, but the bricks come from Europe. The huge sailing ships that arrived from Spain, Portugal, England, Holland, and Denmark had relatively little to sell in the Virgin Islands, and so, filled the hulls of the ships with bricks to be used as ballast. Once they arrived in the islands, the bricks were unloaded and used for local building needs while the ships took back to Europe the locally produced rum and sugar. The cement that holds the bricks together is a mortar made from sand, limestone, and molasses. It is said that in earlier years, children used to lick the walls of the synagogue to taste the sweet molasses. The four pillars that support the building symbolize the four matriarchs in Judaism; they are Sarah, Rachel, Rebecca, and Leah. These pillars, like those at the entrance to the building, were handmade in Denmark from rounded bricks especially for the synagogue.

Another unusual feature of the synagogue is the sand floor. Legend tells us that it is symbolic of the desert through which Moses and the children of Israel wandered for 40 years. The more acceptable explanation had to do with the fact that this was originally a Sephardic orthodox community. During the Spanish Inquisition, when Catholic Spain persecuted all other religions and forcibly converted them to Catholicism, the Jews were forced to practice their religion in the privacy of their home. This was an offense punishable by death. Since religious worship had to be performed in secrecy, they met in cellars and used sand on the floor to muffle the sound of their prayers.

Our beautiful synagogue is a gem in the midst of the Caribbean. Visitors of all faiths experience wonder and awe when standing within its simple and stately interior. On behalf of the Hebrew congregation of St. Thomas

and the people of the Virgin Islands, I invite you, Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, and my fellow Americans to visit this treasure in the American paradise, and join us in celebrating the bicentennial of this national treasure.

WESTERN PAPERS DECRY ATTACKS ON RESOURCE AGENTS

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, we are all familiar with the rhetoric of the special interests who benefit from public resources—mining companies, subsidized irrigators, timber companies, coal companies. We hear the same inflated rhetoric from the leaders of the media, county rights, property rights, and Western movements:

The government is threatening our property; the government is controlling our land; the government is conspiring to take away our liberties.

And, moreover, we are told that these allegedly anti-Western actions are promoted by Eastern elites who just don't understand the Western way of life.

The fact is that vigorous defense of our public resource and environmental protection laws is spread throughout the West and the Southwest just as it is through every other region of the country. People in Utah and Montana, California and Oregon, Idaho and Arizona are just as outraged by our giving away of billions of dollars to international mining corporations as people in New York and Florida. They are just as angered by the billions we waste on subsidized forest practices or irrigation subsidies.

The so-called Western voices we hear, in many cases, are the voices of anti-government extremists and the free-enterprise spouting but publicly subsidized corporations that are conspiring to destroy sound management practices.

No aspect of the extremist assault on the environment is more outrageous than the growing threats, intimidations and assaults on law enforcement officials who defend public resources and the people who use them. This House just voted to cut law enforcement funds for the Bureau of Land Management, on whose lands more than 12,000 crimes occurred last year. We have been unable to secure formal hearings in the Judiciary and Resources Committees on the issues of militias and attacks on Federal law enforcement officials. So, the attacks go on, the threats go on, and the Republican leadership of the Congress turns a deaf ear—or worse—to this scandalous behavior.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the fact is that people in the West do not share the extremist analysis or the extremist agenda. As usual, it is a tiny fraction of people who, for whatever misguided reason, have decided that the government is the enemy. Large numbers of Western Members of the House have joined us in passing legislation to protect the environment and to reform resource policy as recently as last year.

The reason is that westerners don't like to see their lands desecrated or their resources exploited any more than southerners or east-

erners. If you're a taxpayer living in Boise or Billings, or Salt Lake, or Seattle, you're every bit as outraged as the hundreds of millions of dollars with which we subsidize grazers, or irrigators, or mining companies. People are moving to these Western areas because they treasure the land and want it preserved, not opened up, blown up and peeled back in the relentless search for private profit.

I want to insert into the RECORD a recent editorial from the Seattle Times-Intelligencer, a distinguished Western newspaper, that speaks eloquently to these issues. I am also including an editorial from the San Francisco Examiner and Chronicle that speaks to the obsession of the Republican leadership with the Waco shootout but its seeming indifference to the threats to public officials.

[From the Seattle Post Intelligencer]

RIISING TO THE DEFENSE OF FEDERAL LAND AGENTS

A member of Congress finally has stood up to defend federal land managers in the West who have been under attack from extremists who imagine that they are above the law.

Rep. George Miller, D-Calif. has called for Congress to examine what can be done about the rising tide of violence against government officials who are discharging their legal duties. He rightly chastised Western congressional colleagues who carelessly "legitimize" their paranoid fringe constituencies.

Violence toward and intimidation of federal officials is simply unacceptable, and no member of Congress should be in the business of appearing to indulge it.

Officials of the Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management and National Park Service all report instances of violent acts and threats against their employees. The BLM has been bombed in Nevada, and guns have been drawn on national park rangers and fish and wildlife agents, Miller said.

Miller said the Western lawmakers most guilty of providing a small group of extremists "the political space to continue the attacks" are Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, who recently advocated taking guns away from law officers on federal lands; Rep. Helen Chenoweth, R-Idaho, for stating that citizens have good reason "to be afraid of their government," and Rep. Barbara Vucanovich, R-Nev., who suggested that federal officials can avoid having guns drawn on them by "exhibiting sensitivity."

All of those lawmakers ought to know better. They deserve condemnation, not to mention a generous dose of ridicule, for their irresponsible statements.

Miller also found fault with House Speaker Newt Gingrich's fulsome remark that "The thing Easterners ought to understand . . . is that there is across the West a genuine sense of fear of the federal government. This is not an extremist position in much of the West."

We beg to differ, Mr. Speaker. If there is any genuine sense of fear across the West, it's a fear of lawless lunatics, not of the duly sworn agents of representative democracy.

"Will the speaker next rise with words of sympathy for the 'genuine fear' felt by the Bloods and the Crips, by the Aryan Nation and by the Ku Klux Klan?" Rep. Patricia Schroeder, D-Colo., asked in a floor speech.

It is indeed "irrational," as Miller contends, to suggest that the federal government should retreat from its duties because of the paranoid delusions of a few frustrated citizens who fantasize that fish and wildlife agents are the vanguard of a tyrannical New World Order.

[From the San Francisco Examiner and Chronicle, July 16, 1995]

WHACKED OUT ON WACO—THE ONLY CONSPIRACY HOUSE REPUBLICANS WILL FIND IN HEARINGS ON THE BRANCH DAVIDIAN SIEGE IS THEIR OWN: TO GET THE PRESIDENT

If you believe this week's hearings into the 1993 Waco disaster will ferret out the truth, you might as well join the National Rifle Association, become a survivalist and move to Montana.

The hearings, called by House Republicans to investigate the siege of the Branch Davidian compound and its conclusion by holocaust, aren't about law enforcement. They're about politics.

They seek to embarrass President Clinton and butter up those increasingly visible radical right wingers who believe in the black helicopters and buy into the theory that maintenance marks on Indiana road signs are really secret codes for invading United Nations troops.

It's really too bad the Rev. Jim Jones isn't around to tell the House "probers" how he was harassed by government agents and forced to dispense poisoned Flavor-Aid to more than 900 of his followers in the Guyanese jungle. Just like David Koresh, Jones oozed phony charisma, stockpiled weapons and kept his enslaved and soon-to-be-slaughtered followers, including children, in brainwashed thrall.

The truth about Jonestown is that Jim Jones was a mass murderer.

The truth about Waco is that Koresh was a mass murderer. He gave the orders to start shooting when federal agents showed up in February 1993, resulting in a bloodbath. And he gave the orders to incinerate four score of his followers 51 days later when agents started to knock down the walls of his hypocrisy.

The feds made serious mistakes—but they were acting at all times to save lives, not snuff them out. After the final raid, Attorney General Janet Reno became a folk hero because she shouldered the blame. But she relied on bad information: There was no evidence children were being abused inside the compound. A September 1993 Treasury Department report—thicker than the San Francisco telephone white pages—details the bad decisions. Heads rolled, and policies changed.

Preoccupied with elections and its "Contract With America," the GOP couldn't get to oversight until now. The grotesque irony is that these congressional hearings take place when the terror of the Oklahoma City bombing is still in people's bones. How can House Republicans skip over the murder of 168 innocent Americans in order to dredge up ghosts of Waco?

Politics conquers all.

Incidentally, David Koresh is not the optimal Republican poster boy.

The hearings we need would inquire into real enemies: the paramilitary groups of disillusioned, disaffected souls who pose a threat to American values and lives. The Oklahoma City bombers—perhaps acting to "avenge" Waco—demonstrated the danger. Law-abiding citizens are, and ought to be, scared stiff of these gunslinging conspiracy nuts.

In a sense, the Waco hearings provide cover for a new-found right to hate government. The motto becomes: "Don't tread on me—or I'll blow you up." Great stuff to stamp with a congressional seal.

Congress isn't famous for consistency. Still for budget whackers, this bunch sure can spend the bucks on show hearings.

Instead of this ox goring—if we must indulge the inbred cousins of James Watt who wind up in Congress—let's throw a big, old-fashioned ox roast. Guests can eat the beast, chug Coors beer, listen to Pat Boone, snip a

little barbed wire, shoot targets in the head and maybe do a little strip mining. Everybody goes home fat and happy instead of hot to put a bullet through the first federal agent they run across.

Consider it Wise Use.

**BANNING FLAG BURNING;
"EXTINGUISHING LIBERTY"**

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, unaccustomed as I am to quoting Cal Thomas, I would like to share his column on amending the U.S. Constitution to allow prohibitions on burning the American flag with my colleagues. The article, from the May 6 issue of *World magazine*, follows:

EXTINGUISHING LIBERTY

Watching the Fourth of July festivities in Washington (and around the country on television) showed the depth of love most Americans have for this country. That is why a constitutional amendment to ban the burning of the American flag is so silly, stupid and unnecessary.

No one forced the millions of people waving flags—who respect and honor the republic for which it stands—to love America. They exhibited a spontaneity no law can impose. When the House last month passed a constitutional amendment that would, should the Senate and states concur, outlaw flag burning, it continued a game politicians have been playing with public school prayer. The rules of the game are that the social problems confronting America can be fixed from the top—a kind of "trickle-down" morality.

Politicians love this because they have done much to promote such a view, which advances their careers and preserves their jobs. Many others hold this belief because it absolves them of responsibility for fixing what is wrong with their own priorities and transfers it to government. And when government increasingly reveals its inability to repair social damage, we blame not ourselves but government and politicians, deepening the cynicism against institutions and those who work in them.

There hasn't been a lot of flag burning since the Vietnam War. Sen. Howell Heflin (D-Ala.) says that's why now, with the heat of passion reduced, is the best time to ban it.

But any time is a bad time for such a ban. First, what constitutes a "flag"? Is it only the cloth that waves from a flagpole or can it be one that is stapled to a wooden stick? Is the reproduction of the Stars and Stripes on a napkin, patch, or coffee cup considered a flag? Some flags are made in Taiwan or in other nations. Would they count as American flags? I saw a chair upholstered in a flag. If the chair was thrown on a bonfire during a protest rally, would that violate the proposed constitutional amendment? And why is burning being singled out for prohibition? What about stomping, spitting or pouring paint on the flag?

Those who would ban flag burning have placed the American flag in a category and context that is idolatrous. Idolatry is defined as "the worship of a physical object as a god; immoderate attachment or devotion to something." While we don't worship or devote ourselves to the flag as we might be a religious symbol or being, the attachment some would force on the rest of us comes pretty close to resembling that definition.

The Fourth of July overwhelms us all with the number of displayed and waved American flags. As with speech, the best way to overcome the ugly variety is with more and more beautiful speech, along with a common rejection of the ugly speaker and his words. When a flag is burned, it is the protester, not the flag, who is demeaned. He reveals his base ingratitude when he burns a symbol of a nation great enough even to allow him to indulge in moronic behavior.

Banning flag burning will increase the probability flags will be burned. Allowing it removes the political stinger.

**FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IN RUSSIA—AN ISSUE OF HIGHEST
PRIORITY**

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call the attention of my colleagues to an incident that took place in Russia in the last few days—an incident that raises serious questions about freedom of the press and also about the future of democracy in Russia. NTV, the only major independent television network in Russia, broadcasts a political satire program in which puppets are easily recognizable caricatures of leading Russian political figures. The program satirizes public figures. The program—called "Kukly" ("Puppets")—is similar to programs that are broadcast in Britain, France, Hungary, and a number of other countries.

After a recent show, however, the Russian Prosecutor General brought criminal charges against the producers of the show on the grounds that the country's leading public figures were victims of "a conscious and public humiliation of their honor and dignity, expressed in an indecent way." If that standard were observed in the United States, David Letterman, Jay Leno, a host of radio talk show hosts, and any other number of television and movie producers would have been slapped into prison long ago. In a democracy, one of the consequences of a free press and freedom of expression is that public figures are subject to public scrutiny by both responsible and irresponsible media. It is not pleasant to be inaccurately or derisively treated by the media, but I dare say that most of my colleagues have some experience in this regard.

The action of the Prosecutor General in Moscow, however, raises the most serious and the most fundamental questions about democracy in Russia and about future developments there. Initiating criminal proceedings against the producers of a political satire puppet program may be the source of witty headlines in the press—the Washington Post headlined its story yesterday "Satirists Skewer Russian 'Puppet' Government"—but the matter is extremely serious.

The prosecution of these criminal charges, however, is suspect on its face. Why is the Prosecutor General focusing his attention on supposedly criminal actions on a political satire television program? There are far more serious crimes—real crimes—which do not seem to attract the attention of the prosecutor. The suspicious murder of the popular Russian television journalist Vladimir Listeyev of Ostankino TV remains unsolved after nearly a year. Furthermore, the prosecutor and law enforcement

officials still has not found the murderers of journalist Dmitri Kholodov of Komsomolskaya Pravda, who was killed by a package bomb while he was in the final stages of an investigation into corruption in the military. There are real issues of unsolved crimes—real crimes—which the Prosecutor General could deal with. Why undertake proceedings against the producers of a television program?

The answer to that question, Mr. Speaker, is that this criminal proceeding is only a small part of a much larger effort to intimidate the media and to bring the independent television and other media into line, particularly since parliamentary elections in Russia are scheduled for this December and Presidential elections are to follow 6 months later. The independent television station NTV, which is being charged for its irreverent puppet-treatment of the Russian leaders, has also been particularly hard-hitting in its coverage of the government's military actions in Chechnya. The station recently broadcast an interview with the leader of the group of Chechen guerrillas who held more than a thousand Russians hostage in southern Russia last month. Criminal charges are also pending against NTV for broadcasting that interview.

The effort of government agencies to intimidate the media in Russia is a serious challenge to efforts to institutionalize democracy. Freedom of the press and the right of free expression are the most fundamental of the rights of any democratic society. Freedom of speech is absolutely essential if democracy is to exist, and without it, true democracy cannot exist. Russia does not have a tradition of an independent and free and open media; therefore, this effort at intimidation is intended as a warning to journalists throughout the country.

Mr. Speaker, it is essential that we in the Congress of the United States affirm our concern and interest in freedom of expression and an unfettered independent media in Russia. With our distinguished colleague, the chairman of the International Relations Committee, Congressman BEN GILMAN of New York, I am today introducing legislation that expresses the strong concern of the Congress that freedom of expression and freedom of the press be protected and guaranteed in Russia.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues in the Congress to join us in cosponsoring this important affirmation of our concern for freedom of expression in Russia. Our Nation has a strong interest in the positive and democratic development of Russia, and freedom of the press is essential to that process. There should be no question about our commitment to that vital principle.

The text of our resolution is as follows:

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 84

A resolution expressing the sense of the Congress concerning freedom of the press in Russia.

Whereas the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union has brought new and unique opportunities for democratic political change and market-oriented economic reform in Russia;

Whereas the commitment to the spirit of these democratic reforms and to the full implementation of these reforms has been tentative and inconclusive thus far;

Whereas one of the fundamental tenets of democracy and one of the most important means of assuring the continuation of democratic government is an independent and free press, which can exist only in an environment that is free of state control of the

media and the absence of any form of state censorship or official coercion of any kind and is protected by the rule of law;

Whereas freedom of the press and freedom of expression in Russia today is being threatened by some forces within the Russian government, particularly since the dramatic reporting of the war in Chechnya;

Whereas there have been reports in the Russian press, including the official press, of efforts to establish a government committee that would impose censorship on the press in Russia;

Whereas there have been persistent reports regarding the possible issuance of government decrees that would undermine or compromise the independence of privately-owned television stations and other media enterprises which have provided factual reporting on the war in Chechnya or which have editorialized against Russian military action in Chechnya;

Whereas there has been recent evidence of government involvement in actions against independent television outlets and those who use or finance such businesses, including a widely-reported assault on the office of the Most Group, which owns NTV and other media outlets, and, furthermore, allegations of the involvement of presidential security forces in that assault have never been denied;

Whereas the latest effort to intimidate the press involves the launching of a criminal investigation by the Prosecutor General against the largest private television network, NTV, and threatening action against the producers of a political satire program in which puppets are used to caricature prominent Russian officials and personalities;

Whereas the suspicious murder of popular television journalist Vladimir Listeyev of Ostankino TV remains unsolved after nearly one year;

Whereas the assassination of journalist Dmitri Kholodov of Komsomolskaya Pravda, who was killed by a package bomb while he was in the final stages of an investigation into corruption in the military, also remains unsolved;

Whereas journalists in Russia, including both foreign and domestic journalists, have faced harassment, risked arrest, had equipment confiscated, been beaten and even murdered as a result of their efforts to report objectively regarding events in Chechnya; and

Whereas a free and independent information media is essential to the conduct of free, open, fair and democratic elections which are scheduled later this year in Russia; now therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that

(1) A free press is vital to the development and consolidation of democracy in Russia;

(2) Freedom of the press and freedom of expression must be safeguarded against those forces who would suppress or censor these essential fundamental democratic rights;

(3) To protect freedom of the press and freedom of expression, the right and opportunity of independent entrepreneurs to establish, operate, and maintain independent media outlets must be protected and safeguarded;

(4) Russian government leaders, including the President, the Prime Minister, and Members of the Russian Duma, should fully support freedom of the press and the right of free expression in Russia; and

(5) The President and the Secretary of State are requested to convey to appropriate Russian government officials, including the President, the Prime Minister, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, this expression of the views of the Congress.

INS CHECKPOINTS

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues the concerns of Richard and Anne Hicks of Laguna Niguel, constituents from my district. In a letter to me, they expressed their frustration with the Immigration and Naturalization Service [INS] inland border checkpoints in California. Closing the inland check points and reallocating these resources to the California border is cost effective and efficient. I have the same concerns as Mr. and Mrs. Hicks and I would like to share their comments with you.

Today on our way to/from San Diego from Laguna Niguel—we were disgusted while observing the huge traffic back-up surrounding the San Clemente outpost. This is a low pay-off investigation as it is 60 miles north of the border. We resent this intrusion especially when it deters transportation on our busy Southern California freeways, and uses the 'needle in the hay stack' method of immigration control.

Mr. Speaker, I support controlling illegal immigration. My constituents understand first hand, just how ineffective inland checkpoints are.

Effective and efficient control starts at the borders themselves, not 60 miles north. I attached an amendment to the 1996 Commerce, Justice, State bill to move scarce resources from the checkpoints to the border. In order to stop illegal immigrants in their tracks, we need to plug up the source—the California-Mexico border.

OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS FROM THE FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

HON. STEVEN SCHIFF

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, the following graduating high school students from the First Congressional District of New Mexico have been awarded the Congressional Certificate of Merit. These students have excelled during their academic careers and proven themselves to be exceptional students and leaders with their scholastic achievements, community service, and participation in school and civic activities. It is my pleasure to be able to recognize these outstanding students for their accomplishments. I, along with their parents, their teachers, their classmates, and the people of New Mexico, am proud of them.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARD WINNERS, 1995

Albuquerque Evening High School, George Strimbu, 3200 Central SE, Albuquerque, NM 87106.

Albuquerque High School, Eva Dubuisson, 3025 Delano Place NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106.

Bernalillo High School, Jessica Marie Archibeque, PO Box 675, Bernalillo, NM 87004.

Cibola High School, Aaron Olson, 6371 Sandpiper Trail, Rio Rancho, NM 87124.

Del Norte High School, Jean Yates, 7405 El Morro NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109.

Eldorado High School, Luke Wittenburg, 10100 Modesto, Albuquerque, NM 87122.

Estancia High School, Mary Perea, PO Box 18, Torreon, NM 87061.

Evangel Christian Academy, Leah Henderson, 7317 Appomahon Pl. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109.

Freedom High School, Kamila Szwecayk, 8205 Trumbull SE, Apt. G, Albuquerque, NM 87108.

Highland High School, Lisa Smith, 1012 Parkland Place SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108.

Hope Christian School, Vivian Lee Sisneros, 4506 Dusty Trail Ct., Albuquerque, NM 87120.

La Cueva High School, Jamie Mahan, 12090 Roma Ave. NE., Albuquerque, NM 87123.

Los Lunas High School, Emily Williams, 09 Blueberry Lane, Los Lunas, NM 87031.

Manzano High School, Joshua Stephenson, 12238 Kinley NE, Albuquerque, NM 87123.

Menaul School, Rose Allyson Abeyta, 3617 San Pedro NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110.

Moriarty High School, Julie Ann Johnson, 44 Apple Ranch, Tijeras, NM 87059.

Allison Fitzpatrick, PO Box 334, Sandia Park, NM 87047.

Mountainair High School, Shawna Shovelin, PO Box 183, Mountainair, NM 87036.

New Futures School, Berenice Lopez, 6109 Dennison SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

Rio Grande High School, Jason Hunter, 221 Rossmoon Road SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

School on Wheels High School, Yvette Garcia, 432 Merlida SW, Albuquerque, NM 87121.

St. Paul X High School, Catherine A. Csepregi, 908 Sierra SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108.

Sandia High School, Meredith Ford, 7228 Vivian Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109.

Sandia Preparatory School, Rebecca Debenport, 2224 Dietz Place NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107.

Valley High School, Antonio E. Jaramillo, 3103 9th Street NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107.

West Mesa High School, Nicole J. Abeyta, 3016 Corona NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120.

HONORING CHIEF JOSEPH ROWLEY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, today it is my pleasure to honor a distinguished citizen from my district, Chief of Police Joseph Rowley. After 36 years of exemplary service, Chief Rowley retired on July 14 from the Orange Police Department.

Chief Rowley had dedicated his life to serving his country and his community. After serving honorably in the U.S. Air Force, he joined the Orange Police Department as an officer in 1959. Time after time, he distinguished himself with his hard work and commitment to enhancing public safety. During his years of service to the Orange Police Department, he received three letters of commendation and one letter of recognition for his performance in various criminal cases. One of the most notable awards was a letter of commendation for his leadership of the investigation and conviction of two murderers.

His ability to lead earned him numerous promotions, culminating in his being named chief of police in 1990. As chief, he has served with distinction for the past 5 years. Indeed, Chief Rowley is well known to Orange residents for

his outstanding courage and dedication to crime fighting. His efforts have truly made the town of Orange a better and safer place to live. I know his wife, Jacqueline, and his three children take great pride in Chief Rowley's exemplary record.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to salute the leadership and selfless service displayed by Chief Rowley during his 36 years with the Orange Police Department. I join his friends and colleagues, who are honoring him on this evening of July 20 at the Racebrook Country Club, in wishing him a long and happy retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, on the afternoon of July 12, 1995, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Yea" on rollcall vote No. 494, final passage of H.R. 1905, a bill making appropriations for energy and water development for fiscal year ending September 30, 1996.

Please place my statement in the appropriate section of the permanent RECORD.

HONORING THE SOUTH FLORIDA FOOD RECOVERY FOR CHRISTMAS IN JULY

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on July 4, 1995, South Florida Food Recovery celebrated our Nation's independence in unique fashion. A nonprofit organization which regularly provides food to our area's needy, South Florida Food Recovery provided joy to over 1,200 underprivileged children by sponsoring their first annual Christmas in July celebration.

Having begun the collection on Christmas Day 1994, over 4,000 toys were distributed to children on the day of the event. Two fully-decorated Christmas trees served as the backdrop while volunteers dressed as Santa Claus handed out cookies, candy-canes, and other treats. The morning was truly heartwarming for all who participated.

South Florida Food Recovery has demonstrated that the Christmas spirit can be felt throughout the year. That they held Christmas in July in conjunction with Independence Day makes their efforts even more special. What a wonderful way for Americans to join for a July 4th celebration.

LET'S DEBATE THE TEAM ACT ON ITS MERITS

HON. STEVE GUNDERSON

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. GUNDERSON. Mr. Speaker, as U.S. manufacturers have reorganized to compete in

the global marketplace, they have turned more and more to employee involvement to motivate their work force and improve productivity. Employee involvement consists of a structure in which employees and managers seek joint solutions to workplace problems through co-operation. Employees and employers alike agree that involving employees in workplace decisionmaking has several positive effects, including giving employers a greater voice in workplace decisions and increasing productivity.

I have advocated employee involvement in all types of workplaces for over 4 years. However, this management approach is only legal in unionized workplaces under current law. Section 8(a)(2) of the National Labor Relations Act makes employee involvement in nonunion settings illegal. It is an ultimate irony that in nonunionized companies, the employer can dictate the safety clothing employees wear and even the type of food in the cafeteria, but employers and employees cannot address these issues and arrive at a consensus. This restriction may have made sense in 1935, but in 1995, when 88 percent of the work force is not unionized, it should no longer apply. As the recent study by Princeton Survey Research Associates shows, workers of all stripes prefer cooperation 3 to 1 over unions.

In January, I introduced the Teamwork for Employees and Managers [TEAM] Act along with BILL GOODLING, Chairman of the Economic and Educational Opportunities Committee, and HARRIS FAWELL, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations. The bill makes a technical change to section 8(a)(2) to allow employee involvement in nonunion settings. The TEAM Act does not seek to eviscerate the representational role of unions, but to give nonunion employees the same ability to communicate with management as unionized employees. The business community has supported this bill through the TEAM Coalition, a group of many different employers and associations.

About a week ago, the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers [IAMAW] sent a letter to several companies that are TEAM Coalition members and whose employees the union represents. The letter uses thinly veiled language to threaten ongoing employee involvement programs between the company and the union unless the company leaves the TEAM Coalition. I find such implicit threats appalling, contrary to the spirit of employer-employee cooperation, and detrimental to workplace harmony.

Instead of promoting employee involvement for all workers, one organization has threatened to end it for those workers who can legitimately cooperate with employers in the workplace. This raises opposition to a new level of absurdity. It makes no sense for the IAMAW to threaten the very programs that the union has helped and has itself sanctioned, in the only legal type of employee involvement available today. This action is truly antiworker because it only affects union members. These are the very programs that are empowering workers and providing them more control over their job, and over the direction of the company. I wonder what the reaction of line workers would be to this tactic.

Throughout the debate on the TEAM Act, I have tried very hard to promote the TEAM Act as a proworker initiative that expands legal employee involvement without being antiunion.

I have asked my colleagues to temper suggested legislative language. I have tried to be responsive while promoting legitimate employee involvement in nonunion settings.

The Economic and Educational Opportunities Committee has responded as well. When many in organized labor believed that the TEAM Act would allow employers to bypass existing unions, Representative TOM PETRI offered, and the committee accepted, an amendment to make clear that employers cannot circumvent existing unions when starting employee involvement programs. The companies must receive agreement from the union. The committee has also entertained other possibilities for improvement suggested by our Democratic colleagues. But organized labor continues to argue the TEAM Act is explicitly antilabor.

I would hope that companies and organizations that have joined the TEAM Coalition would resist pressure tactics such as the one raised by the IAMAW. Congressional action should be premised on honest debate over legislation. All interested parties should undertake vigorous and open debate on the merits of this legislation and let the chips fall where they may. But if pressure is applied to squelch one view, then the debate becomes a game of underhanded tricks. Employer-employee cooperation is very effective in union settings. Because a competitive work force is vital to U.S. economic success, we should at least investigate the merits of applying meaningful cooperation to the nonunion work force as well.

THE MERCER COUNTY FLOOD RELIEF EFFORT

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to your attention the outstanding coalition of organizations which has been the backbone of the relief effort to alleviate the effects of the severe flooding in West Virginia's Mercer, Mineral and Nicholas Counties. Mercer County, which is in my district, was the hardest hit by the floods. Instrumental in aiding the people of Mercer County carry out the arduous task of rebuilding and cleaning up has been, the Red Cross, the West Virginia National Guard, and a number of local volunteer fire departments and rescue squads.

Mr. Speaker, residents' homes, businesses, schools, and roads have been devastated by the high waters. Fortunately, no lives were lost. Sifting through the mud and debris, many have struggled to find the scattered remains of personal belongings and are in a sense of helplessness when assessing the structural damage to their homes. The businesses which the residents depend on so dearly for jobs and services have suffered heavy damages. There has been damage to city halls, police departments, hospitals, and other institutions vital to the surrounding communities. Schools have also fallen victim to the indiscriminate wrath of the flood waters. Thirteen bridges have given way to the mighty waters, and chunks of pavement have been severed from the roads. The total amount of damage is estimated to run in excess of \$7 million. Now, the citizens of Mercer County face the challenge of rebuilding their lives.

The Red Cross in Mercer County, under the direction of Warren Zorek, has been at the forefront of the relief effort. The special teams and volunteers sent into the area have proven invaluable to the residents of Mercer County's hardest hit localities, providing food, clothing, and shelter to displaced and distressed families and individuals. The men and women of the Red Cross are currently continuing their efforts to get the disabled communities back on their feet and moving again.

Upon visiting the afflicted areas, Maj. Gen. Joseph Skaff, Adjutant General of the West Virginia National Guard, announced that he would send personnel and equipment to help in the restoration of Mercer County. A total of 16 members, 4 dump trucks, and 4 all-terrain vehicles were dispatched to the area to aid in the removal of debris. The Guard's assignments were coordinated with the local civilian authorities. They have tremendously eased the burden on the residents, who have expressed their sincere gratitude for the services that are being provided.

There were also a number of volunteer fire departments and rescue squads who evacuated residents, and were on hand to pump the muddy waters out of homes. Among them were the East River, Bluewell, Green Valley, Glenwood, Oakvale, Bluefield, and Princeton fire departments and rescue squads. Their combined numbers totaled more than 150 men and women. It is of utmost importance that the members of a community and its surrounding areas come together, as the people of Mercer County have, in order to overcome such catastrophes. A strong community effort can have excellent results despite the dire conditions which may exist.

Local, State, and Federal officials surveyed the ravaged communities of Mercer county. Having heard the stories of the fear and heartache which the flood victims suffered, and having seen the damage first hand, the State Office of Emergency Services made the request to Governor Gaston Caperton that he seek a disaster declaration for the area. On July 5, the Governor signed the request for Mercer County to be declared a disaster area, and then forwarded it to President Clinton. On the same day I sent a letter to the President urging my strongest possible support for the disaster relief request, and expressed agreement with the Governor in that the disaster is larger than can be effectively handled by the State. I am pleased to say that the Federal Emergency Management Agency approved Mercer County for Federal relief assistance on July 12.

The communities are now one step further on the road to recovery, and I would like to personally thank the men and women of these organizations for the hard work that they have put into this effort. Their contributions and good will shall be well remembered by those whose suffering and anguish have been lessened by such caring and humanitarian people.

TWENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE TURKISH OCCUPATION OF CYPRUS

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I had hoped that this would not be necessary. Yet here we are again, observing yet another anniversary of this awful tragedy—the occupation of Cyprus by Turkish forces.

The whole world recognizes the injustice of the situation:

The United Nations has adopted a Security Council Resolution calling for a settlement that respects the sovereignty of Cyprus.

The European Union has taken steps to include Cyprus as a member state. Greece is cooperating in the process by lifting its veto against Turkey's customs union with the EU. Yet Turkey remains intransigent. More must be done.

I am pleased that President Clinton has demonstrated his commitment to a resolution of the problem by this appointment of a Special Presidential Emissary for Cyprus.

Recently, President Clerides of Cyprus proposed a plan that calls for the demilitarization of the island. With more than one third of Cyprus under foreign occupation by 30,000 troops, demilitarization offers an opportunity to build an atmosphere of trust that could bring the sides closer to a framework for a resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I support President Clerides' efforts to introduce a new approach that recognizes the need for bold diplomatic initiatives to solve this intractable problem. The world has seen many promising signs for the cause of peace. The fragile processes in the Middle East and Northern Ireland are two examples where progress has occurred despite great difficulties and decades old animosities. We have an opportunity now to commit ourselves to an initiative that offers the possibility of demilitarizing this land which has suffered so much.

But these hopeful signs do not quiet the suffering of the island's people. International diplomatic efforts are meaningless if they do not lead to a resolution. For twenty-one years, the people of Cyprus have lived under foreign occupation. Twenty-one years! The families who grieve for fathers and mothers and sons and daughters killed or missing since the occupation have waited too long for a just settlement.

Mr. Speaker, it is my sincere hope that this is the last time we find ourselves on the floor of this House marking yet another anniversary of this occupation.

CYPRUS

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the 21st anniversary of Turkey's illegal occupation of the independent Island of Cyprus. This is a dilemma that must be addressed.

Today, there is no more hope for a settlement to the crisis than there was 20 years

ago. It is a shame that a country that was founded with such promise and vision has deteriorated into a land torn by faction.

The tiny Island of Cyprus gained its independence from Great Britain in 1960. The Cypriots are divided along ethnic lines with 76 percent of the citizens of Greek origin and 19 percent of Turkish origin. To take into account this ethnic division, the first provision of the Cyprus constitution required a Greek Cypriot President and a Turkish Cypriot Vice President. Upon independence, the United States praised the new country for its "effort to create a new state based on the cooperation of different ethnic communities."

However, peace on the Island of Cyprus lasted only until 1963 when President Makarios proposed constitutional revisions that strengthened the Greek majority. The strenuous relationship deteriorated until 1974 when Greek hardliners supported a coup of President Makarios. In response to these threatening acts, the Turkish Government sent troops into Cyprus and seized control of a significant portion of the island.

Today, the two ethnic groups live in separate areas of the island with the United Nations maintaining a buffer zone. Settlement efforts have stalled on differences of how to solve the matter. In fact, a recent calmness on the island has disturbed some officials in the United Nations. The Secretary General of the U.N. has stressed that it is not a reason for optimism, but rather a cause for serious concern. It signifies not a peace initiative, but a strengthening of forces. In response to these actions, on June 27, 1995, the House approved an amendment by my colleague, Congressman JOHN PORTER of Illinois, to the foreign operations appropriations bill—H.R. 1868—that would reduce the aid to Turkey by 50 percent until they withdraw their troops from Cyprus. I supported this measure.

Mr. Chairman, tumult such as this must come to an end. It is time that peace comes to the Island of Cyprus.

"TWENTY ONE YEARS OF DIVISION ON CYPRUS"

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I want to express my strong support for a peaceful end to the presence of Turkish military forces in Cyprus.

Today, July 20, 1995, marks the 21st anniversary of Turkey's invasion and occupation of the Island of Cyprus. The time is clearly long overdue when the occupation and division of Cyprus should be ended. The time has come to provide answers to questions over persons who have been missing for over two decades since the invasion of Cyprus. The time has come to bring peace and unity to the people of Cyprus.

The United States of America has clearly stated its commitment to a Cyprus settlement that respects the single sovereignty and territorial integrity of this island. I want to commend President Clinton for the leadership his administration has offered in support of international efforts to resolve the issue of a divided Cyprus. This administration has expressed clearly and consistently its support for an end to the illegal division of Cyprus.

Last fall, President Clinton appointed Richard Beattie as Special Presidential Envoy for Cyprus to lend new impetus to United States efforts to resolve the Cyprus problem. Last month, President Clinton also elevated State Department Special Coordinator for Cyprus James William to ambassadorial rank to provide a further indication of U.S. resolve. The United States has also initiated, in conjunction with Great Britain, confidential talks between Greek Cypriots and the Turkish Cypriots. While these talks were to eventually break down due to Turkish intransigence, the resolve of the United States and the Clinton administration remain unshaken in its support for a peaceful settlement of the Cyprus division.

The international community has also spoken with a clear voice against the continued division of the Island of Cyprus. U.N. Security Council adopted Resolution 939 on July 29, 1994, which calls for a Cyprus settlement "based on a state of Cyprus with a single sovereignty and international personality and a single citizenship, with its independence and territorial integrity safeguarded, and comprising two politically equal communities as described in the relevant Security Council resolutions, in a bicomunal and bizonal federation, and that such a settlement must exclude union in whole or part with any other country or any form of partition or succession."

The Greek Cypriots are also speaking with a clear voice in support of a peaceful resolution to the division of Cyprus. Greek Cypriot President Clerides recently issued a demilitarization proposal that seeks to bring an end to Cyprus' status as what U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali called "one of the most highly militarized areas in the world. President Clerides' proposal states that the Government of Cyprus will disband its military

force, turn over its military hardware to the U.N. peacekeeping force, and pledge all out-year appropriations that would be otherwise earmarked for defense toward maintaining the U.N. force if the Republic of Turkey will end its illegal occupation of this island. The way is clear for ending the division of Cyprus which has brought so much suffering to the people of the island if the Turkish Government will embrace this opportunity to obtain a peaceful end to the division of Cyprus.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that the people of Cyprus will soon live free from foreign occupation and illegal division. Twenty-one years of occupation is far too long and I want to join with my colleagues in urging the Government of Turkey to end its occupation of Cyprus.

THE TURKISH OCCUPATION OF CYPRUS MUST END

HON. DICK ZIMMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. ZIMMER. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 21st anniversary of the illegal Turkish occupation of 40 percent of the island of Cyprus. As I have in the past, I once again urge Turkey to end that occupation so that the people of Cyprus can work toward a peaceful, democratic and independent future.

This House recently approved an amendment by Congressman PORTER to reduce United States aid to Turkey. This amendment was in part the result of Turkey's blind disregard for the territorial integrity of Cyprus.

The Porter amendment represented the second time we have voted to reduce aid to Tur-

key because of its abuses of human rights and international law. I hope it will be the last.

Turkey must realize that we are growing impatient with its empty promises to address the Cyprus problem. For 20 years it has ignored or rejected virtually all calls to end its occupation and resolve the problems it has created.

As a result, there are still five Americans whose whereabouts remains unknown after they were swept up in the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974. There are also 1,614 Greek Cypriots who were abducted during that invasion and who remain unaccounted for today.

Seventeen years ago, Congress agreed to lift the partial arms embargo it had imposed on Turkey for treaty violations on the condition that Turkey would work toward a lasting resolution of the Cyprus problem.

And what has happened in 17 years? Nothing, Mr. Speaker. Rather than trying to resolve the problem, in fact, Turkey has aggravated it by declaring, in 1983, the independence of its occupied land on Cyprus and naming it the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus."

That was not the peaceful resolution that Cyprus had expected. And it is time that we make it clear that our patience with procrastination and broken promises is exhausted.

Mr. Speaker, I continue to support legislation offered by Mr. ANDREWS and Mr. PORTER that would ban all aid to Turkey until the Turkish Government complies with a number of conditions relating to human rights, as well as the condition that Turkey withdraw its troops from Cyprus.

Until Turkey withdraws its troops, we have little hope for a resolution. If we do not demand decisive action by Turkey and hold that nation accountable for its deeds, we will be back here next year sadly noting the 22d anniversary of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus.